

LITERARY NOTICES.

CHALMERS' INSTITUTES OF THEOLOGY. Vol. II. Published by Harper & Brothers. For sale by Frank Taylor, Washington, D. C.

This posthumous publication and reprint, after so many voluminous editions of Dr. Chalmers' writings, is a remarkable testimony to the excellence and power of the man—among the noblest of the generation that have passed. Of the present volume we have need with most care his argument on Necesity and Predestination, which we consider to be far more valuable as a protest against the moral consequences that follow from the doctrine, and therefore an involuntary testimony in favor of free-will, than an intellectual discourse. Only the most thorough sincerity of conviction in the man could make him commit himself to so loose and inconsistent reasoning in trying to distinguish Necesity from Fatalism. The religious merit of the book we rate much before its logical merit. But to do justice, one should view it in connection with the whole system of which it forms a part.

LIFE AND CORRESPONDENCE OF ROBERT SOUTH. No. I. Published and for sale by the above.

We are sorry that the biography of a literary man should be so voluminous, in this voluminous age, as to compel its republication in these crowded double columns of minion and brevier. Having once taken a vow against small type, except in extreme cases, we seriously fear that we shall be deprived of the enjoyment of knowing so fruitful and various a life as that of Southey. We are sorry, too, to find, and this while the volume previously noticed, disfigured by such vile mis-spellings as "mold," "theater," and "creature." We trust these are all misprints.

The beginning of this "Life" is a very entertaining, agreeable, and rather gossiping autobiography, in which we have noticed Southey's interesting account of his strong taste for dramatic romance at the age of seven. Sixteen letters (55 pages) bring the account down to his sixteenth year. The remainder is largely made up from his correspondence that it cannot fail to give a very full view of his habits of thought and the history of his mind.

1. GERMANY QUARTERLY REVIEW. October, 1849.
2. METHODIST QUARTERLY REVIEW. January, 1850.

We have placed these two together, for contrast, rather than similitude. The first is fresh, earnest, and practical throughout—a most hopeful feature in our Western religious literature. Even the ultimate remedy proposed for "modern infidelity" is not so much penitential as practical; namely, the active development of Christian doctrine in the line of social reform. When we see that the main articles are on "Woman's rights and duties," "Religious organizations and slavery," "Bible, war, and peace," "education of the sensible," and that all appear to proceed on the pure moral principle of the thing, and are progressive, not to say ultra, in their tone, we have given the best idea we can of the quality of the Review.

The "Methodist Quarterly" is, on the whole, we think, the most critical review that ever fell into our hands. Everything in it must pass a *bona fide* scrutiny, and there is not a single shuffling generalization, so far as we see, in its notice of a single book. If in this its great denunciation is fairly represented, it has come to a very interesting period in its growth. Such indefatigable inquiry must lead to something, though as yet it is directed to men, and books, and single thoughts, rather than subjects of larger compass. The first article is a very scholarly one on Plutarch, "the Christian philosopher of Pagan antiquity." Another administers some well-earned rebuke to the singular ill-breeding of certain passages in Powell's "Living Authors of England." One goes somewhat (individually) into the question of free-agency; another reviews Dr. Hawke's "Egypt and its Monuments."

There are fifty-three short notices, several brief essays, and ten pages of religious and other intelligence. At two dollars a year, we have no doubt that this journal is cheaper than any other of the kind now issued.

A UNIVERSAL PRONOUNCING GAZETTEER. By Thomas Amis, assisted by several other Gentlemen. Eighth edition, with a Supplement. \$2.65 and 50c.

The claims of the title-page, of which we have copied only a small portion, seem to be abundantly sustained in the execution of the work. It is a very valuable book, to all appearance very carefully and thoroughly executed. A well written preface states its design and principles; a list of authorities begets confidence; and an elaborate introduction, of twenty pages, gives, besides a full account with reasons for its plan, the rules of pronunciation for fourteen languages. We might, perhaps, take exception, on the score of familiar habit, to the author's ascertaining the law in Alexandria and Philadelphia, as names of ancient cities: in the former case, particularly, it would be difficult to draw the line; for example, if one should speak of Anrus's burning of the library there. With this exception, we like the author's principle; though in application it requires the author's book, which we shall esteem and consult accordingly. It is unquestionably far more melodic and easy to give the native sounds to most of those ungainly names that daunt us in maps and newspapers. Our old acquaintance Amis, turns out to be quite gentle to the ear, and so with the author's instances of Szegedin, Ljubljana, &c. The geographical information seems to be well gathered and compacted. The pronouncing system is easy as any. The poetical authorities make it something of a literary curiosity to boot. The supplement is a manual for the convenience of teachers, containing a list of some two thousand names occurring on school maps, some of which are and some are not in the original Gazetteer. Unless done up separately for cheapness, we still think that this, as well as the "Appendix," or American Gazetteer, had better be incorporated with the first part. A single alphabetical list of three hundred thousand names is far easier to use than that of five thousand each. Some curiosities of sound and spelling are contained in a page of "mispronunciations." The book, or one like it, ought, very decidedly, to be on every teacher's desk.

THE PUBLIC EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE, AN ORATION. By Theodore Parker. \$2.50. Boston: 1850.

Mr. Parker speaks, by way of introduction, of the military education of ancient Rome, and the aristocratic education of England—all at the state's expense—and then of the State, Business, the Church, and the Press, as the educational influences in this country, where "the Government is a Democracy, the government of all, by all, for all, and in the name of all." He speaks of the Northern States; for "Slavery and education of the people are incommensurable quantities. No amount of violence can be their common measure. The Republic, where master and slave were equally educated, would soon be a red Republic. The slave-master knows this, and accordingly puts education to the ban, and glories in keeping three million barbarians in the land, and of course suffers the necessary degradation which comes therewith." The four elements spoken of have reasonably fair justices done them as they are, but undergo somewhat of Mr. Parker's trenchant criticism, judging them by what they should be. The true honor of the teacher's profession is especially and vividly vindicated.

GRANARY MAGAZINE, for February, contains nine embellishments, among them *Polo Alton*, which is promised to excite the imagination of the first of a series of Periodicals of the Mexican Campaign. The contributions are numerous, of various excellencies, and adapted to many

FINANCES OF OHIO.

Governor Ford, of Ohio, in his annual message, states the receipts in the State Treasury, during the year 1849, at \$2,511,193.77, the disbursements at \$2,176,681.04. Of this amount, the sum of \$1,922,358.96 was appropriated to the payment of the interest on Foreign Debt. The total amount of the Domestic Bonds redeemed and cancelled in the year is, \$199,380.25; and there remained in the Treasury a balance applicable to the payment of the State Debt, of \$433,365.16.

The receipts from the canals and public works, during the year ending November 15, 1848, were—\$773,554.07 From the same, for the year 1849—731,173.50 Decrease—\$42,380.57

This decrease was caused by the prevalence of the cholera, and by the extensive failure of the wheat crop.

GOVERNOR FORD AND SLAVERY.

There is nothing fishy in the reference to Slavery in the Message of Governor Ford, of Ohio. After avowing the deepest attachment to the Union of the States, and asserting for each State the power of exclusive legislation over its own internal concerns, he proceeds:

"While all the rights of the slaveholding States, recognized by the Constitution, will be vigilantly and faithfully maintained, it is equally the right and the desire of the free States to be exempted from all the evils and burdens which that institution imposes."

Thus, the General Government should bear all responsibility for the existence or maintenance of Slavery, or any traffic thereto.

The subject of the extension of Slavery into the new Territories is one of interest, and has for some time past attracted the attention of the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners took the expenditure during the year 1849, to January 5, 1850, to have been \$9,371. Of this, \$3,700 were paid to physicians, and \$3,996 for the various expenses of the cholera Hospital. Yours,

Butler, Chapman, Corwin, Davis of Mississippi, Dinsmore, Dawson, Dayton, Hunter, King, Mason, Marion, Pearce, Phelps, Sebastian, Sprague, Turner, Yule—20.

So the resolution and memorial were referred to the Committee on the Territories.

Mr. Douglas then moved to take up the bill submitted by Mr. Foote, for the government of Deserts, New Mexico, and California, and the erection of the State of Jacinto, and refer it to the Committee on the Territories, a motion having been previously made to refer to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The latter motion was lost—yesterday, nays 23. The former motion prevailed—yesterday, nays 22, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Baldwin, Bradbury, Bright, Chase, Clarke, Cooper, Corwin, Davis, Dodge, Dickinson, Dodge, of Iowa, Dodge of Wisconsin, Douglass, Fitch, Green, Haine, Jones, Miller, Morris, Nichols, Sprague, Underwood, Upham, Wales, Walker, and Whitcomb—25.

NAYS—Messrs. Atchison, Badger, Bell, Ben, Berrien, Boland, Butler, Clay, Clements, Davis of Mississippi, Dawson, Estelle, Houston, Johnson, Mabry, Monroe, Moore, Pearce, Rusk, Turkey, and Yule—22.

So the bill was referred to the Committee on the Territories.

It was voted that the black code, I believe, it has been so often modified, that it is extremely difficult to understand it at this time. But her people are her expatriates, or some of them. One—a Senator on this floor—has openly said, in a resolution said to have been proposed by him at a meeting of Free-soilers, that he would make an oath to the Constitution of the United States, he would feel at liberty, under a mortal reservation, to regard this article as null and void.

Mr. Chase of Ohio rose, and, with much emphasis, demanded—

"To whom does the Senator allude?"

Mr. Butler. I allude to the Senator himself, and to the resolution introduced by him in a convention held at Columbus.

Mr. Chase. Mr. President, I never proposed such a resolution—never voted for any such resolution; I would never propose or vote for such a resolution.

Mr. Butler. It is attributed to the Senator who has just sent me his seat, if the accounts in the newspapers are to be believed upon it.

Mr. Chase. When a Senator brings a serious charge against a fellow-Senator, he should have some better authority than a newspaper paragraph.

Mr. Butler. I should hardly have supposed that such a remark would come from one connected with newspapers himself. [Loud laughter.] When an honorable Senator arises upon this floor, and discusses a topic, he always does it with his credit, for it is not to contradict him. I can say that heretofore this opinion has been attributed to both himself and one of the Senators from New York, [Mr. Seward.] They have been thought to be extra-constitutional. They have been thought to take an *extra* view of this subject.

Mr. Chase. Let it be read. I send it to the Clerk for that purpose.

Mr. Butler. I hope to ask the Senator, if he will answer one or two questions, for my information, and the information of the country? I understand him to state that he did not offer that resolution; that he never voted for it, and never would vote for it. I gather from the same newspaper publication, that that resolution was offered at a meeting of Free-soilers, and an oath to the Constitution of the United States, he would feel at liberty, under a mortal reservation, to regard this article as null and void.

The Secretary read the extract as follows:

"In 1843, Messrs. Chase and Lewis published a call for an Abolition Convention at Columbus.

The Convention met; and among its doings, it adopted a resolution that the slaves in the District of Columbia should be freed, and that the slaves should be compensated for their freedom.

Mr. Chase. Resolved, That we hereby give it to be distinctly understood by this nation and the world, that the *Abolitionists*, considering that the strength of our slaves lies in their right to be free, and that they are entitled to the laws of God, and our support for the rights of man, we owe to the sovereign Ruler of the Universe, as a proof of our allegiance to Him, in all our civil relations, with either our friends, citizens, or as public functionaries, or in private persons.

Mr. Butler. I hope the paragraph which has been referred to will be read. I send it to the Clerk for that purpose.

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